

Elk Point REVIEW

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Tuesday, March 4, 2014

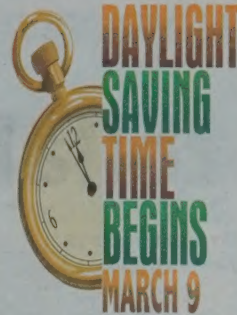
Vol. 34 No. 9 • \$1 (GST incl.)

Town council
Investigates grant possibility

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Author
Delights with fantasy

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Vicki Brooker photo

FGM's show must go on!

Strong winds that created wind chills of near minus 40 degrees may have cancelled school bus operation across the St. Paul Regional School Division on Friday, but it didn't freeze out the enthusiasm of these F. G. Miller High School students and staff and community members who strongly believe in the cause and wouldn't let the weather stop them in their efforts to "Slam the door on bullying" in Elk Point. The planned flash mob was postponed to a later date, but a performance by the school staff's band, 'Rock Bottom,' was just too exciting to keep stored away until then. More photos on Page 5.

Extreme cold puts weekend on ice

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Plummeting temperatures and strong winds put Elk Point and district in the deepfreeze this weekend, putting a hold on almost all of a busy weekend schedule for local residents.

Rural students stayed home on Friday when school buses across St. Paul Regional School Division No. 1 were canceled, derailing plans for a huge 'Slam the Door on Bullying' event at F. G. Miller High School, where Elk Point Elementary School students and community members were to have joined in a massive flash mob. Those who made it to school wore their handsome pink shirts as they posed

with the big pink door, signed pledges against bullying and heard from a newly formed band made up of school staff. Several businesses continued with their plans to dress in the pink anti-bullying shirts, and in some cases, decorate their premises, in support of the campaign.

FGM's senior high basketball tournament was also canceled, as were hockey games at the A. G. Ross Arena.

Elk Point TrailRiders Snowmobile Club normally delights in winter weather, but also decided it was just too cold to hold the annual Vintage Snowmobile Show and trail ride on Saturday. A barrel racing jackpot and a gymkhana at the C. G. Baker Memorial Arena were also canceled due to the weather.



Vicki Brooker photo

F. G. Miller staff members (left to right) Jonathan Randall, Kelly Burke, Shane Larmand, Colin Bjorkman and Randall Kryns made their debut as 'Rock Bottom,' as they entertained students who braved the elements to help spread the "Slam the Door on Bullying" message on Friday.

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Town council considers collaboration grant for new library

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Mayor Parrish Tung introduced a new idea to Elk Point town council last Monday, when he suggested that the province's new collaboration grant might be able to be used to build a new and larger library to serve the community and surrounding area.

The grant, which he said does not require municipalities to match the funds, is aimed at collaboration between municipalities, and the mayor said he has had preliminary discussions with County of St. Paul Reeve Steve Upham and County CAO Sheila Kitz and felt the county would be amenable to the idea.

Recent growth in memberships, collection and circulation has had Elk Point Municipal Library's board discussing the need for a larger facility for some time, and the mayor feels that this could be an ideal opportunity. The present library, built in the mid 1980s, could then be converted into larger quarters for the town office and council chambers, which are also short on space, the mayor said.

With the former Elks Hall now a day care and playschool and no longer accommodating large functions, Mayor Tung told council that there is no longer a need for such a large parking lot, and as that property belongs to the town, "a 7,000 square foot library would fit nicely," with adequate space left for parking.

Council passed a motion to apply for a collaboration grant in conjunction with the County of St. Paul, to build a new library to serve town and county patrons.

Eco Centre repairs

Repairs to the Elk Point Visitor Information EcoCentre roof were delegated to public works, but the department has not been able to contract the original contractor. Town manager Myron Goyan has now been asked to track down someone to do the repairs. Elk Point Chamber of Commerce has found a builder willing to complete the outdoor access washroom, and is currently waiting for a price estimate.



Vicki Brooker photo

A water main break caused major traffic disruptions on 52 Ave. as well as leaving a number of homes without water until Wednesday evening.

Council to remain at five

Coun. Bernice Capjack told council that she was asked, "Why don't we have more councillors?" when she was campaigning before the Oct. 2013 election, and subsequently decided to share that question with council.

"That question has come up a few times over the past few years," Coun. Dwayne Yaremkevich noted.

Coun. Lorne Young said that on the other hand, "People have said to me, why would you need more councillors? They don't see it as good value for the dollar. Elk Point's not that big."

"I agree with Lorne," said Coun. Debra McQuinn. "Some have said, why would we have over five."

Mayor Tung asked if the councillors felt they had too many meetings, or were "being snowed under" with council duties, but were told that no one felt overwhelmed. Because council would have to add two more members to continue to have an odd number at

the council table, "It could be a \$14,000 or \$15,000 hit" for additional honoraria, he noted. "That's one per cent of our income."

While they have no intention of increasing their number, the mayor and council agreed that it had been "a healthy discussion."

Financial transfers

Council agreed to set up a replacement reserve fund with the money the town has already collected for the garbage bin rentals, for such time in the future that they require replacement.

Because the town was unable to hire a new economic development coordinator, the \$12,000 allocated in the 2013 budget for those wages remains untouched. Council agreed to transfer those funds to the general operating fund.

Water main break

Monday's late afternoon water main break took precedence over the minutes from the Feb. 5 public works committee meeting, although those minutes contained the snowfall priority street cleaning list and a review of the capital projects list. The water break left Ravine Drive residents without water, and had town crews working well after dark that evening, with frozen ground hampering their efforts. Repairs continued during much of the week following the break.

Highway sidewalks

Coun. Debra McQuinn expressed concerns with the amount of snow piled up on sidewalks along Highway 41, noting that not only were the sidewalks impassable, with pedestrians resorting to walking on the highway, but the piles are also making the driving lanes narrow.

Mayor Tung said the snow removal is the highway department's responsibility, and asked that administration take pictures of the situation and send them to Alberta Transportation, asking that the situation be remedied. If it is not, the next move would be for town crews to remove the snow and bill Transportation for the work.



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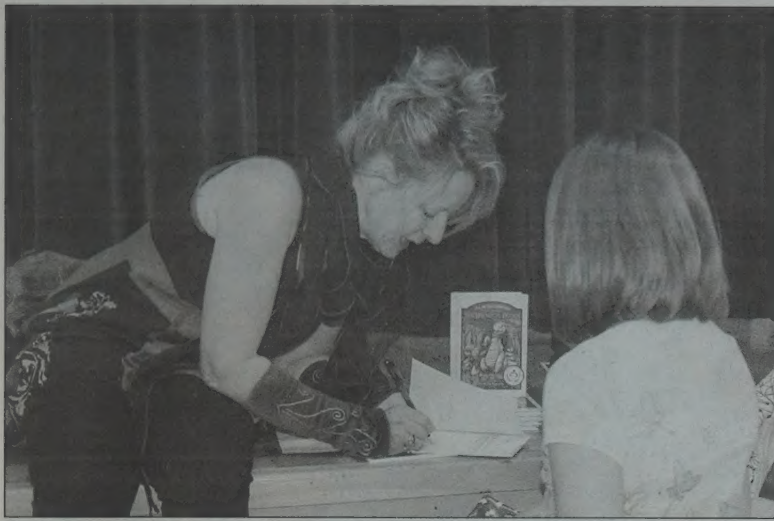
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Vicki Brooker photo

St. Paul author Diane Mae Robinson autographs one of her 'Sir Princess Petra' chapter books for an Elk Point Elementary School student during last Wednesday's visit.

Tales of knight princess entertain EPE students

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

St. Paul children's author Diane Mae Robinson entertained and informed an entranced group of Grade 3 to 6 students at Elk Point Elementary School on Wednesday, as she talked about the story-writing process and read from her second and very popular chapter book, *Sir Princess Petra's Talent*.

Robinson said she attended school in Elk Point as a child, and her Grade 1 teacher, Mrs. Bartling, "taught me how wonderful books are. When I started to read, I was in awe of the adventures you can go on through reading." The classic story of *Black Beauty* "was the first book I read by myself."

Her writing career goes almost back to that time, she noted, but even before that, "My Grandma Robinson used to listen to my stories. As a kid, I was highly imaginative. I wrote plays, and we acted them out." The playwriting career came to a sudden halt when "I made my sister jump off the roof and she broke her arm." The jump was part of the play, and her sister was supposed to rescue Robinson, who was tied to a tree at the time, she noted. "My mother said my writing career was over, at age eight."

It was not until a number of years later, when Robinson was 35, that she decided to go back to school and learn to be a writer. She first earned a journalism diploma, then studied writing for children. Her first book, *Sir Princess Petra*, started out to be a picture story book that she wrote as an assignment, but made endless rounds of publishing houses before a publisher asked her to rewrite it as a chapter book, "and I had

to go back to school to learn to write chapter books."

Sir Princess Petra, which was published in 2012 and which has won three awards, tells the story of a princess who decides she wants to be a knight instead. Her father, the king, puts numerous obstacles in her way, citing ridiculous tasks she must complete to become a knight, but at age nine, she picks the mission and amazes him by completing every one.

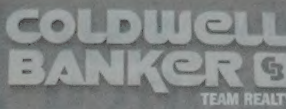
The second in what she has planned will be a four-book series, "but it could be seven," is *Sir Princess Petra's Talent*, and this time, the king and queen are putting more obstacles in the intrepid young knight's way. They send her off to talent school to learn all the "girly things a princess must know," to escape being turned into a frog, and she's not happy, at one point telling her dragon sidekick, "I'd rather be turned into a frog than learn to crochet." Even worse, the king makes up new rules as the story continues.

Robinson is now hard at work on her third book, which she says may be called *Sir Princess Petra's Mission*, and "her adventures are getting more complicated."

Writing is not her only occupation, however. She's an online writing school instructor, teaches art and works in a dental office, as well as taking care of five horses and four dogs.

Although she's an artist, she doesn't do the illustrations for her books, she told the students. "The publishers have illustrators who do that, and my illustrator is a good friend who lives in Oklahoma."

(Continued on Page 11)



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Capsule Comments



by Your Natural Choice Apple Drugs pharmacist, Seyi Oyebo

- When you see the words trans-fats on a food label, think artery clogger. These fats raise the bad cholesterol (LDL) and lower the good (HDL). They are used for enhancing flavour, texture and shelf life of many processed foods. Canadian legislation hasn't banned them yet, but many food manufacturers have reduced or eliminated trans-fats from their products. Still, reading the label is a good idea.
- It's not a good idea to skip meals, especially breakfast. Those who skip breakfast are ironically more liable to be overweight and have an increased risk of heart disease and diabetes. The best advice? Eat three meals per day and if possible, eat the largest meal in the middle of the day.
- Children between the ages of 10 and 20 need about 1300 mg of calcium every day. They are still growing and calcium is important. They can get that amount from two cups of milk, one cup of orange juice and a cup of yogurt every day.
- It's been suggested that people who have trouble sleeping shouldn't watch TV too close to bedtime. This could extend to the popular computer tablets and are used quite often in bed. These devices, like TVs, contain LED lights which emit blue and blue-green light which could cause sleep problems. This isn't a proven link but if sleeping is a problem, try reducing TV and computer use before bedtime.
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EDITORIAL

Not forgotten

Ask most adults, no matter how old, if they were ever bullied. A large percentage of the answers will be 'yes,' and many of them will go on to tell you all about those humiliating incidents from their childhood and youth. And no, they probably didn't tell anyone, because being a tattletale was much frowned upon.

Bullying is not a new problem, but now it has the added ammunition of electronic communication systems that can spread bad news way too quickly.

Congratulations to our local schools and community for their efforts to "Slam the door on bullying."

WAY BACK WHEN...

'Maz country,' best bakers, vintage sleds

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES IN THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 4 IN...

1989

Two decades of commitment by Deputy Prime Minister Don Mazankowski were honoured by Elk Point residents at an open house where he said that, although Elk Point was now part of the new Beaver River federal riding, he would "still consider Elk Point part of my constituency." Four delegations visited town council, ranging from Sid Holthe on behalf of the Senior Citizens' Concerns Committee and Charlotte Engstrom of the Lakeland Nutrition Month Committee to library board chair Adele Mandryk and Minor Hockey president Dave Kenyon.

1994

Over 60 Elk Point and district residents attended an information meeting on school board regionalization and voted unanimously to support the concept, after gaining insight into the planning process and having their questions answered by school board members and administrators. Cub Jennifer Flanders, Beaver Aaron Jurak and Boy Scout Casper Zarowny were named Elk Point Scouting Association's best bakers when their cakes were displayed at the association's annual family banquet.

1999

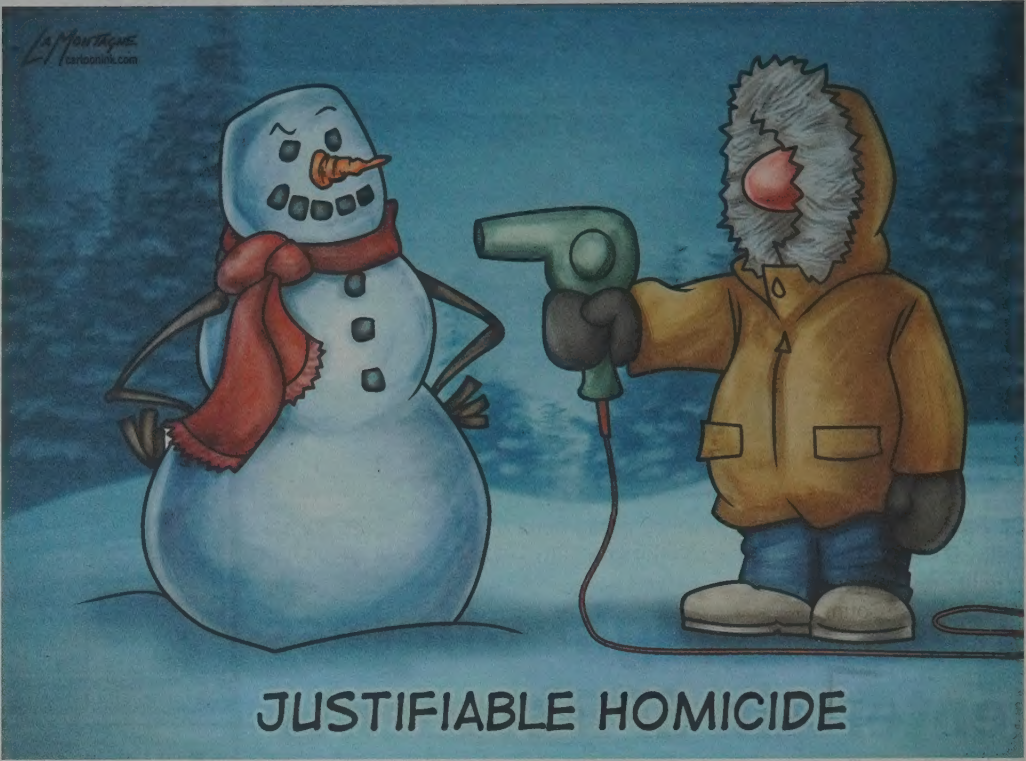
Elk Point Elks were named Sask-Alta season-end champions, with Curtis Porcina and Dwayne Porcina accepting a pair of goalie awards before the team started their best-of-seven playoff series against Dewberry Mustangs. Colin Routhier, Graham Zarowny and Tanya Blacklock displayed the best-dressed cakes at the Scouting Association's annual family banquet and cake auction.

2004

Elk Point 4-H speakers showed great potential, with seniors Shaun Robinson and Michael Wandler, intermediates Robyn Ockerman and Melissa Frisby and juniors Jessica Wirsta and Kayla Gibson. Long service awards were presented at the Elk Point Healthcare Centre, with 25 year certificates going to RN Esther Moneta, a former acute care and head nurse working in home care, and to Registered Dietitian Linda Fox.

2009

A total of 43 vintage snowmobiles dating back as far as 1968 took part in the Elk Point Trail Riders' annual antique snowmobile show at the Iron Horse Trail staging area. Town council studied freestanding business sign regulations as part of the process of clarifying the bylaw which Coun. Dwayne Yaremkevich and Economic Development coordinator Bob Bezpalko agreed had "a lot of contradictions" in it.



GUEST COLUMN

Under our skin

Recently in the *Elk Point Review* and the *St. Paul Journal*, I have read about the high number of domestic violence issues being covered by the RCMP. My feelings of sorrow go out to the people involved in these domestic violence disputes. I know it hurts the people involved and it hurts me to read about it taking place. Of course, I am wishing it didn't have to happen.



deanna EASTHOPE

from the FCSS desk

I was recently reading a light fictional romantic book and you are probably saying, "What are you doing wasting your time on such books?" Well, actually, I learned something. The book is called 'Small Grain of Sand' and the author is Pamela Carrington Reid. The book opens with a poem that I found fascinating. The poem is called 'The Oyster,' and is by an anonymous poet.

*There once was an oyster whose story I will tell,
Who found that some sand had got into his shell.
It was only a grain but it gave him great pain,
For oysters have feelings,
even though they're so plain.
Now did he berate the workings of fate
That led him to such a deplorable state?
Did he curse at the government or cry for election,
Or claim that the sea
should have given him protection?
No - he said to himself as he lay on a shell,
Since I cannot remove it, I'll try to improve it.
Now the years rolled on, as the years always do,
And he came to his ultimate destiny - stew.
But that small grain of sand
that had bothered him so
Was a beautiful pearl all richly aglow.
Now the story has a moral: for isn't it grand*

*What an oyster can do with a small grain of sand?
What couldn't we do, if we'd only begin
To work with the things that get under our skin?*

I thought about what this poem is saying and how it can relate to domestic violence. In other words, domestic violence involves relationships and the violence has occurred because something got under someone's skin that they didn't like or feel was fair. So they physically or emotionally reacted. They wanted that "something" to go away or be changed into their interpretation of what was acceptable to them. Wait a minute! Is the bottom line to what causes domestic violence as simple as something that got under a person's skin? Maybe or maybe not. But let me go back to the poem about the oyster. The poem also referred to a pearl being made from something that got under the skin. A pearl forms from a grain of sand. It comes in all sizes, shapes and colours. Black pearls are fine ones and they are very expensive. Those are the ones you dive for.

Because pearls are something we like, there are pearl farms that actually harvest pearls. These farms work the water in lagoons. Apparently on a pearl farm, a tiny bead is inserted and the oyster is closed back up again and put back into the ocean. The oyster spends a couple of years coating it with the calcite until it's a pearl. In other words, it takes time to improve the situation that "got under the skin" and the oyster did the work. The next question, "What is calcite?" The dictionary states it is a mineral, CaCO3, consisting of calcium carbonate crystallized in hexagonal forms and including common limestone, chalk and marble. In other words, to get rid of something under our skin, we need to use a lot of different resources. But the key is the oyster itself did it all while inside the shell. So can we say the bottom line to having domestic violence not occur needs to start with the individual himself or herself working on improving the situation over a period of time with the help of their own resources within themselves? It begins with looking at what gets under our skin. It is just a thought. What do you think?

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

ELK POINT REVIEW

5022 - 49 Avenue, Elk Point, AB

Mailing Address:

Box 309, Elk Point, Alberta T0A 1A0
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Publisher: Clare Gauvreau Editor: Vicki Brooker
Email Address: production@stpaul.greatwest.ca

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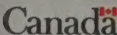
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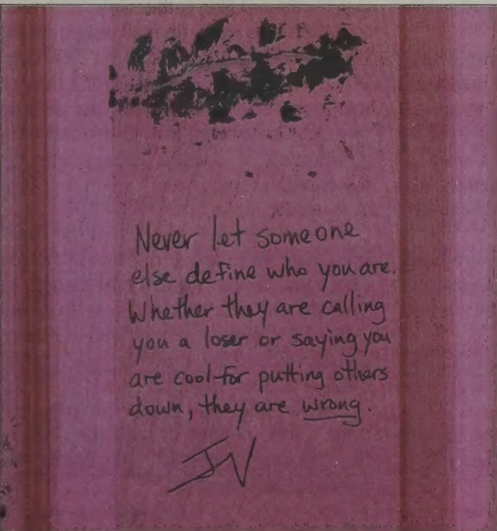
Elk Point town council and their town manager tried on their newly-arrived "Slam the door on bullying" shirts at Monday night's council meeting. Left to right are Coun. Lorne Young, town manager Myron Goyan, Coun. Debra McQuinn and Couns. Bernice Capjack and Dwayne Yaremkevich.



Elk Point ATB Financial staff shared their anti-bullying message with these big pink posters and the small 'Stay Calm' posters (shown at top right) that caught the eye of every patron in the Friday line-ups. Left to right are Geoff Hyslop, Julie Roth, Shawn Jensen, Carla Ganske and Brianne Greening. Not shown are Janet Harasiuk and Faye Poitras.



Elk Point Insurance staff members Patsy Spacil, Connie Stewart, Gail Havener, Elaine Bjorkman and Elaine Kalynchuk decorated their office with streamers, balloons and posters, and even had pink treats ready for customers to enjoy.



A heartfelt message on F. G. Miller's battle-scarred pink door was only one of many from students, staff and community members determined to put an end to bullying. More photos, Page 8

Vicki Brooker photos

Elk Point goes **PINK** to stop bullying



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Tenders to be in by 4:00 pm March 7, 2014. Bids must be in a sealed envelope with a description of the land roller, bid price, contact information and a signature. Bids must be brought to the County of St. Paul offices at 5015-49 Ave St. Paul, AB. All items can be viewed at the County Shop. Highest or any other tender not necessarily accepted. All sealed bids will be opened March 10, 2014 and the winner contacted. Payments can be made by cash, credit card or certified cheque. All items subjected to GST. For more information call Keith Kornelsen at 780-645-3006.

Details of the Land Roller

Year: 2010
Manufacturer: Mandako
Model: 30' Mandako with acre counter
Field Dimensions: Length 24 ft, Width 40 ft, Height 5 ft
Transport Dimensions: Length 37 ft, Width 12 ft, Height 5-1/2 ft
Weight: 7410 kg
Purchase Price: \$26,900 (April 2011)

County of St. Paul No. 19

TAKE NOTICE that the following Development Permit has been issued in accordance with Land Use Bylaw No. 2014-50 of the County of St. Paul No. 19.

PERMIT #	LOCATION	
14-D0007	S 1/2 13-58-5-W4	Temporary Work Camp - Maximum 36 units on site and maximum 36 occupants. Land Use District: Agricultural District (A) Discretionary Use

Any person claiming to be affected by the said Development, may appeal within fourteen (14) days of this advertisement, to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by serving Notice of Appeal to the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board of the

County of St. Paul No. 19, 5015-49 Ave., St. Paul, AB., T0A 3A4

The appeal letter must contain at least one reason for appeal and if the development permit is a permitted use under the land use bylaw, no appeal applies unless the provisions of the bylaw were relaxed, varied or misinterpreted in the decision of the Development Authority. The appeal fee is \$200.00 (refundable if appeal is successful).

March 4, 2014 **Krystle Fedoretz, Development Authority Officer**



Submitted photo

The competitors at the 4-H Club District Public Speaking Competition display their certificates at the St. Lina Community Centre on March 2.

4-H members give diverse speeches at district competition



Sam Macdonald photo

Ashley Bristow, a member of the Elk Point 4-H Club, speaks to guests and judges at the 4-H District Public Speaking Competition on March 2, at the St. Lina Community Centre. Bristow was the winner of a previous club competition, which secured her a spot in **Sunday's event**.

By **SAM MACDONALD**
Review Contributor

4-H Club members from around the district came together at the St. Lina Community Centre on March 2, to showcase their verbal skills. The 4-H District Public Speaking Competition had members performing short speeches to an audience and judges, on a number of different topics.

Topics of the speeches given included personal life experiences, agriculture, sports, as well as social and political issues like the legal drinking age, and the state of children in poverty around the world.

The types of speeches members gave were organized into presentations, prepared speeches, and impromptu speeches. Impromptu speeches provided a challenge because members had to express themselves and their opinion on a particular subject on the fly, testing their improvisational skills.

Phyllis Corbiere, the assistant leader with the St. Lina 4-H Club explained that there are five 4-H Clubs in this district and each has their own separate club speaking competitions. Winner from the club's individual competitions moved on to participate in Sunday's competition.

Then, the winners of the district competition go on to participate in the regional competition.

"Out of the five clubs in the district, we each take a turn each year to host the district competition. It's a pleasure hosting the competition this year, because it's a great group," said Corbiere, adding, "There's a great

group of parents helping out and judging today, so it's nice to get that support too."

When asked what she thought of the members' performances after they were all complete, Corbiere said, "The kids did really well this year, I would say a few times there were some faults with the impromptu with people not speaking for a full minute, but I was impressed to see as many kids as there were, speaking for over a minute."

She added, "We're going to have great representation at the regional level, we always do."

Winners for the 4-H Club District Public Speaking Competition are:

Presentations

Junior, first place – Kailey and Lexi Wirsta, "English vs Western"

Intermediate, first place – Devan Bailey, "Half a Dozen Boards"

Senior, first place – Brooke Sallstrom, "Creative Option-Creative Opportunities"

Prepared Speeches

Junior, first place – Rebecca Kotowich, "On the Road"; second Place – Kathryn Flynn, "My Camping Experiences"

Intermediate, first place – Spencer Graling, "The 'S' Word"; second Place – Tyler Jodoin, "Names"

Senior, first place – Elsa Fritzler, "How Thankful Are You?"; second Place – Jazlyn Beaudin, "Have You Lost Your Mind?"

Hunters concerned with loss of land, wildlife habitat

By **BRANDON MACLEOD**
Review Contributor

The number of hunters in the Lakeland is dramatically increasing, while the habitat for wildlife and allowable areas to hunt safely are rapidly decreasing, due in part to oil and gas development and expansion in the region, leaving the outlook for wildlife and the ability of future generations to hunt in the area uncertain.

That sentiment was shared by many of the more than two dozen hunters at the post-hunting season meeting, hosted by Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD) at the Centennial Centre in Bonnyville on Feb. 27.

The initial aim of the meeting was to provide hunters with trends and data, as well as recent and proposed changes to regulations, but often the gathering evolved into more of a discussion about the concerns hunters have for the state of hunting in the Lakeland.

"There are now way more people hunting and they are hunting decreasing numbers of animals on a decreasing amount of land. How is this sustainable?" said MD of Bonnyville resident and longtime hunter Lindsay Untereiner, following the meeting.

"It can be hard enough for the wildlife populations to respond facing natural challenges. But at the rate their habitat is being destroyed and the number of (hunting licenses and tags) being handed out, there will be nothing left for the next generation, our grandchildren."

Barb Maile, the ESRD senior wildlife biologist for the St. Paul, Bonnyville and Cold Lake area hosting the meeting, said the concerns aren't limited to the Lakeland.

"We're hearing that from hunters across the province. But these numbers are coming down from all time highs," she said.

Maile presented a graphic highlighting the population goals set out by ESRD for white-tailed deer in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) within the Lakeland and they were all met at some point over the last three years, despite the population numbers in each WMU declining year after year for the past seven years.

Hunters in attendance had different views of the graph, with many saying the population goals do not take into account the number of hunters and declining habitat.

"It's pretty clear to me and I think

many of the people here that the deer population is clearly going down," said one man in attendance.

Maile pointed out that often data can be skewed or even inconclusive, because information gathered from hunters can be inconsistent or lacking.

"The data is based only on what we can use, which is the information and survey responses we gather from you guys. If we had mandatory reporting, the data would be phenomenal."

Maile said data can also be gathered through research techniques including aerial surveys, which are used to survey wildlife populations in specific WMUs, and are one of many factors used to determine habitat carrying capacity and social carrying capacity and eventually population and harvest goals.

However, aerial surveys require funding Maile said the ESRD does not have or receive, with the ministry funding its last aerial survey in 2009.

Although, she said WMUs 726, 511 and 512 were surveyed from the air in 2013, but it was Environment Canada-funded to study the moose populations in the areas where oilsands activity is occurring.

"If we had money to fly over every

year, that would be fabulous, but we don't," said Maile. "In those years we use the best data from the research we have."

One hunter suggested since oil and gas development is reducing the wildlife habitat and land available for public use, a deal ought to be struck between the province and industry to have companies not only survey their own sites, but also survey the wildlife in the area.

Maile said in theory that might work, but in the creation of Alberta ESRD in 2012, the former environment ministry lost its role in dealing with the oil and gas industry, which now falls under the jurisdiction of Alberta Energy, leaving the ESRD's "hands tied" when it comes to industry.

Hunters seemed concerned the feedback they were providing would fall on deaf ears, as the ministry in charge of wildlife and hunting has no say in determining the pace at which land is leased and developed by industry, and lost to hunters and wildlife.

"How are we going to preserve what's left, or will this go the way of the Canadian fisheries?" questioned one hunter in attendance.

(Continued on Page 7)

Disappointing end to Bantam series

By VICKI BROOKER

Review Staff

So close, but yet so far.

It was a whole new hockey game when Elk Point Bantam Avalanche slogged their way through drifting snow to pay a return visit to their Smoky Lake counterparts Thursday night, after the final buzzer sounded with three goals apiece in Tuesday night's game in Elk Point, the first of a two-game, total point series to determine who would represent the zone at Provincials in Drumheller later this month.

In Tuesday night's action, Avalanche captain Nick Tucker opened the scoring unassisted, just eight minutes into the game. It took another eight minutes before Smoky Lake took advantage of a double Elk Point penalty to return the favour, and tie the game. The visitors edged ahead with a second goal in the dying seconds of the period.

Elk Point tied the game early in the second, Brody "The Big O" Odgaard scoring off assists by Austin "Astro" Axley and Ethan Tremblay, but Smoky Lake pulled ahead again with 5:06 left on the clock.

Ethan Dion scored the tying Avalanche goal, assisted by "Slippery Shay" Wood just over three minutes into the third period, and determined effort by the Elk Point defense and netminder Shane "Hercules" Hurtubise held the visitors at bay for the remainder of a very exciting and well-attended game.

Thursday's game was disappointing for the Avs, to say the least, as none of their valiant efforts paid off and none of their shots made it past the Smoky Lake goalie, while three opposition players fought their way through a strong Avalanche defense to put their markers up on the score clock.



Gotcha!

Bantam Avalanche goalie Shane Hurtubise makes short work of an incoming puck in Tuesday's game.

No intentions to expand outcome based reporting in St. Paul area

By JANICE HUSER

Review Contributor

Following last week's announcement by the Battle River School Division to review its assessment based grading system for high school students, which replaces actual percentages on report cards, St. Paul Education Regional Division Superintendent Glen Brodziak confirmed that the largest school board in the St. Paul area has no intentions on expanding the outcomes based grading system beyond Grade 6.

Outcomes based reports cards are now in places for students from kindergarten to Grade 6, said Brodziak in an interview with the *Journal* last week. But, "In the foreseeable future . . . we will not be going beyond that (Grade 6)."

The assessment model grades students with a level of achievement, rather than an exact percentage. But Brodziak says SPERD continues to offer parents as much information as possible with grading. In the Battle

River Division, which is located south of Edmonton and takes in communities such as Camrose, Battle River, and Killam, it was high school students who voiced concern over the change.

For the past few years, Alberta Education has been pushing to revamp the education curriculum in Alberta. In 2008-09 the math curriculum was changed.

"We've heard mixed reviews on the math curriculum," says Brodziak. But, the superintendent is optimistic and says Alberta Education has been "actively involving" all levels of the education system when making changes.

The province is favouring the discovery method of teaching, which moves students away from strict deadlines and moves toward a student-initiated type of learning. Brodziak says the exact definition of discovery learning can vary, and that teachers often use a variety of techniques in the classroom.

"The classrooms have definitely

changed," says Brodziak, but so far the division hasn't received too much feedback on the curriculum changes.

"At SPERD, the discovery method teaching is only one approach of instruction that we employ as it allows students to take an active role in their education through engagement while developing creativity and problem solving skills," confirms SPERD chair Heather Starosielski. She says that when it comes to group work, which is common with the discovery method, students are still assessed on an individual basis.

As for assessments and report cards, Starosielski says that student achievement can't always be assessed with traditional testing or be recorded in the form of numbers.

"Outcomes based reporting allows for a greater range of information to be reported on our students that are in early development," she says.

Sandy Babyn, a retired teacher who still substitute teaches with SPERD, said

that after many years of teaching, she is not pleased with the direction being taken by the province in regards to the discovery method and assessment-based reporting.

She says that she is not a proponent of more group work, or less teacher direction, which are two components of the discovery method. But, she admits that having retired in June, she doesn't know the specifics on the new curriculum and was only made aware of the changes through colleagues who are still teaching. She has since been following discussions through media reports.

"As for outcome-based report cards, I have yet to meet a parent who likes them," says Babyn, adding, "Most parents just want to know the percentage or level that their child is achieving or performing at."

Information regarding the Curriculum Redesign Initiative is available online through the Alberta Education website.

Canada Day planning gets underway

By VICKI BROOKER

Review Staff

The Elk Point Canada Day Committee held their first meeting of the year last week, and already have the fireworks display and the Canada Day Idol competition confirmed on the July 1 roster.

With Canada Day less than four months away, there's a considerable amount of planning left to do, and those who attended this meeting will

need lots of help and good ideas to get the show on the road.

Do you have any suggestions for ways to make this year's celebration of Canada's birthday the best ever? If so, come on down! Committee chair Bernice Capjack says that all interested people are welcome to attend the next meeting on Thursday, March 27 at 7 p.m. at the Elk Point Visitor Information EcoCentre and give their input.

Hunting

(Continued from Page 6)

Maile said she understands where hunters concerns lie and sympathizes with them.

"We are pushing for a review of the game management plan," she said. "There are other options out there. We could restrict licenses, get rid of the supplemental tags and put it all on a draw."

Hunters seemed receptive to the idea of cutting back the distribution of supplemental tags and suggested continuing to provide hunting licenses to Albertans, but only allowing one tag per hunter.

Others were concerned with the amount moose were being hunted and their decreasing population, suggesting outfitter allocations ought to be cut back as well.

Cougar population increasing and territory broadening

After being prompted by area hunters' anecdotal evidence of cougar sightings, as well as one hunter having claimed to have recently caught a cougar along his trap line in the Lakeland, Maile said "cougars are increasingly starting to show up in the area over the last 10 or 15 years."

She added, "The cougar population is increasing, though we're not sure of the exact population at this point. There are not a lot in one particular area, as cougars are very territorial and solitary hunters."

Maile said they have yet to do a survey of cougars in the Lakeland region.



Pretty in pink

Servus Credit Union staffers (left to right) Lauray Visser, Jennifer Dallaire, Lorrie O'Reilly, Deena Smith, Lori Werenka and Carmen Berlinguette added their support to the "Slam the Door on Bullying" campaign, and noted that two of the credit union's core values, integrity and fairness, fit right in with the concept. Some of the ladies even sported pink hair for the occasion.

MP Storseth defends budget

By KEVIN BERGER
Review Contributor

With some critics calling it a "thin" budget for agriculture, Westlock-St. Paul MP Brian Storseth defended the 2014 federal budget for taking on the issues that are "pertinent to our agriculture producers" and for increasing the number of food inspectors a year after funding cuts.

Released on Feb. 11, the 2014 Federal Budget introduces a \$390 million five-year grant to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to hire approximately 200 more additional food inspectors.

As well, the budget also provides an additional \$205.5 million over

five years to the CFIA, Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada to continue BSE-related programming aimed at safeguarding human and animal health.

Another measure introduced with this budget was spending \$30.7 million over five years to establish a Food Safety Information Network linking federal and provincial food safety authorities and private food testing laboratories in Canada.

The network will allow food safety data to be compiled, analyzed and shared in real time, allowing for more rapid detection of food safety hazards.

Aside from those funding injections, the budget states the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program will begin this year. This program enables livestock producers to protect themselves against unexpected price declines by allow them to purchase insurance coverage.

Notably, Alberta has had this system in place for fed cattle since 2009. With that model now being expanded into a more regional system, Alberta producers can expect to see little change in the way they do business.

Welland MP Malcolm Allen, who is the Official Opposition Critic for Agriculture and Agri-Food, called the budget "thin" for new measures that would benefit farmers.

Other than the livestock price insurance program that had been previously announced, Allen said there were no real measures that would speak to farmers directly.

Storseth said this government has "always been there for agricultural producers," and this is a time where farmers have said to them quite clearly they want to maximize their returns in the market.

He said the federal government is assisting in this goal through increasing trade opportunities via the Canada-European Free Trade Agreement or the TransCanada Pacific partnership.

"We are creating more markets and more access for our farmers," he said. "At the same time, (in the case of) our other trade agreements with South America, we are making those countries to increase their standards so it makes our farmers more competitive on a price level."

(Continued on Page 11)

“Nada”

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World Day of Prayer service to be held at St. Michael's Roman Catholic

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

This Friday's World Day of Prayer observance will be located at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, rather than Elk Point United Church as reported in last week's issue. We apologize for the error.

The World Day of Prayer service will be presented by women from the various churches in Elk Point and area, who have been meeting weekly to study and prepare for the annual event.

The 2014 service was written by Egyptian women of all traditions and all walks of life, who have come together as a community of prayer, celebrating their unity in Christ and their diversity in culture. More than three million people in over 170 countries mark the day annually, with the women of a different country each year collaborating to prepare the service.

Those of all faiths are welcome to attend the service, which begins at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 7.

New books and more

By DAPHNE SCHNURER
Elk Point Municipal Library

You won't believe the number of new books we now have in the library, thanks to very generous donations from the County of St. Paul Library Board, the Town of Elk Point and our very own Friends of the Library. We have been purchasing new materials like mad. Check them out: lots of new best sellers, DVDs, Christian fiction, large print, children's books and young adult books. New materials are arriving weekly, so drop in often and see what's new.

Memberships are free for town and county members, so what better place to bring the whole family?

Speaking of the family, here's a reminder for all the young readers: all Winter Reading Program reading sheets must be turned in no later than tomorrow, Wednesday, March 5, to be eligible

for the Northern Lights Library System draw, and by Friday, March 7, to be eligible for our in-library draw. Good luck to all entrants on winning a brand new e-reader.

The after-school craft dates this month are March 13 and 27, when you can join us for stories, crafts and games. There is no cost to join in the fun, and you may just drop in when it is convenient.

Not sure about what all your iPhone can do? Wondering how to download an app? We will be hosting a workshop in April where you can learn the basics, and find out what you have been missing. Contact us at 780-724-3737 or librarian@elkpointlibrary.ab.ca to get your name on the list.

And don't forget, it's time for tea on Tuesday, March 11 at 2 p.m. Join us for goodies and good conversation.

IN MEMORIAM

Capjack, Doris
Sept. 5, 1925 - March 8, 2013



You are missed so very much,
You were everything to us,
We know we could always turn
to you
For warmth, love, guidance,
courage and support,
Your kindness and your
beautiful warm smile will
always remain in our hearts.

Lovingly remembered
Bernice and family,
Glady's and family,
Michael and family

IN MEMORIAM

Betty Roscoe
March 6, 1946 - March 6, 2013
In Loving Memory



We watched you suffer, we watched
you sigh,
But all we could do was just stand by,
When the time came we suffered too,
For you never deserved what you went
through.
God took your hand and we had to part,
He eased your pain but broke our hearts.
If you could have spoken before you
died,
These are the words you would have
replied:
"This life for me has truly passed,
I have loved you all 'til the very last.
Weep not for me, but courage take
And love one another for my sake."
So when we saw you sleeping
So peaceful, free from pain
We could not wish you back to suffer
that again.

Lovingly remembered, Henry
Dion & Family, Darwin, Shari & Family,
Wanda, Mike & Family, Conway & Family

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Call 724-4194 for more information
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www.elkpointbaptistchurch.org

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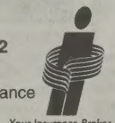
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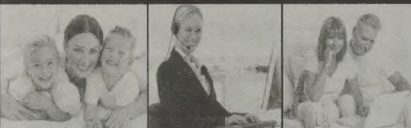
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130. Coming EventsAlberta Onsite Wastewater
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Mar 6 from 5pm - 9pm: Trade Show/Technical Sessions
Mar 7 from 9am - 2pm: Trade Show/Technical Sessions
Mar 7 from 2pm - 4pm: Technical/Business Sessions
Mar 8 from 8am - 5pm: Convention Proceedings-Education

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CLAIMANTS****Estate of
STEVE****MAKSYMEC
who died on
November 13, 2013**

If you have a claim
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must file your claim by
April 4, 2014 and pro-
vide details of your claim
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Box 426, Elk Point,
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If you do not file
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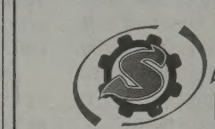
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In this union position, the successful candidate will safely and efficiently operate and maintain natural gas pipeline systems and associated equipment; document activities and gas system information as required by regulations; and perform staking and inspection activities to ensure quality standards are adhered to during the construction process. The best candidate for this role holds a high school diploma and has completed a Gas Utilities Operator course; brings 3 years' experience in a related field with preferably 1 year performing the operations function of a natural gas utility; and offers a mechanical aptitude and proficiency in the operation of tools, equipment and computer software. Other requirements include certification in PE Fusion, Safe Digging, Line Location and Construction Safety. Qualifications that include a Gas Fitter's B ticket would be considered an asset. Candidates must live within 20 minutes of our Bonnyville district office in order to respond to natural gas-related emergencies.

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SADDLE LAKE EDUCATION AUTHORITY

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN

Required for

Kihew Asinui Education Centre
(Jr./Sr. High School)

The Saddle Lake Education Authority is seeking a term position for a Computer Technician for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year. The position will be located at the Kihew Asinui Education Centre (Jr./Sr. High School).

The Computer Technician would be responsible for repairs, installation and maintenance, and for the management of the computer system and networks for the school.

Basic requirements is to have an in-depth knowledge of computer software and hardware. Applicant should have a degree or diploma in computer science or IT.

The position also requires teaching Language Arts in the grade 9 level. Please send or email your resume to:

Debra Cardinal, Superintendent of School / or Florence Quinn, Principal, KAEC

Saddle Lake Education Authority

Box 130

Saddle Lake, Alberta

TOA 3T0

Telephone: (780) 726-7640

Fax: (780) 726-4069

or email dcardinal@saddl lake.ca; florenceq@sledu.ca

Resumes and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted.

Northern Lights Library System (NLLS)

SUMMER TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT

Northern Lights Library System invites applications for Summer Employment. These 16 week positions provides support to all departments of Northern Lights Library System headquarters.

The successful applicants will assist with all Headquarter library functions at NLLS as well as providing vacation backup for support staff. Candidates must be computer literate, have excellent keyboard skills and be familiar with MS Office applications. The successful candidates will have strong people skills, the willingness to take on varied tasks and responsibilities and the ability to function in an environment of change.

Post Secondary Students in the area of computer sciences, information technology, web design, library sciences or education are invited to apply.

A valid driver's license is required.

Salary Range: \$14.91 / hour;

Closing Date: March 21, 2014

Please submit cover letter, resume and the names of three references to:

Brigitte Sakaluk, Assistant Director

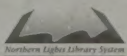
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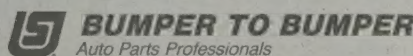
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We thank all applicants for their interest;
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Author

(Continued from Page 3)

She cautioned aspiring authors in the audience that writing is hard work, and told them that specialized education in the craft is "very important, and you have to practice lots and lots and lots." Her instructor also told her that as a writer, she should "read 1,000 books in your genre, because every time you read, your mind is learning how the story is written." Fiction writers must also have a good imagination, she said. "My characters are fully formed in my mind before I start writing."

While writing one of her books takes her only "a couple of months," she noted that it takes up to six months to edit what she has written, because "it has to be close to perfect, you want to make every word count." Once a publisher accepts a book, there's another round of editing, prior to the book going to print, she added.

Robinson was accompanied on her visit by her daughter, Desiree Warholik, who currently is a student teacher at the school, and by her multicoloured dragon mascot. "I've always been a dragon fanatic. I really believe in dragons," she told the delighted students.

Budget

(Continued from Page 8)

Allen also noted that the hiring of 200 new food inspectors is undermined by the fact that the government had previously eliminated 308 inspector jobs when the government cut \$56 million from the CFIA's budget.

Storseth refuted the argument that the federal government has reduced the number of food inspectors, adding that it was "false" when the budget chan-

ges occurred in 2012 and remains false now.

He acknowledged there has been changes in funding to the CFIA and a "re-organization of staff," but the number of front-line inspectors has increased.

Storseth said that, in 2006, the number of inspection staff sat at 4,165. "At no point have we ever been below that number," he said.

The current number of inspectors employed by the CFIA stands at 4,863 and that was before the announcement of 200 more inspectors being hired.

"There's been a 26 per cent increase of national inspectors since March of 2006," he said. He noted this also extends to field inspectors. In 2006, there were 2,823 field inspectors, and by 2008 it stood at 3,030.

"It has been nothing but a consistent rise to the point where we're adding about 754 inspectors more, which is a 26 per cent increase in 2013. And that's before the \$390 million additional investment," he said.

Storseth noted he sat on the special committee on food safety that met in recent years and recalls the Weatherhill Report, which examined food safety measures in the wake of the 2008 listeriosis outbreak.

He said all the measures from that report have been implemented by the federal government, and charges of the federal government eliminating inspectors is a matter of "jockeying" with their unions.

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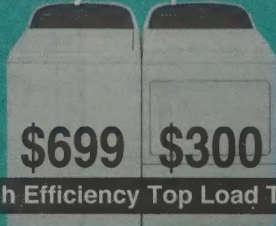
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